

# CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF

## THE PARABLES OF JESUS



July 29, 2018

Pastor Peter Nittler

### ***What Does it Really Mean to Accept Jesus' Invitation?*** **Luke 14:12-24**

#### **Luke 14:12-24**

<sup>12</sup> He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

<sup>15</sup> When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" <sup>16</sup> But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. <sup>17</sup> And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' <sup>18</sup> But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' <sup>19</sup> And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' <sup>20</sup> And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' <sup>21</sup> So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' <sup>22</sup> And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' <sup>23</sup> And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

#### **What Does it Really Mean to Accept Jesus' Invitation?**

"When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just." Luke 14:12-14

#### **1. Recognize that it is an Invitation to \_\_\_\_\_**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a ***new creation***. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the Invitation to Change

v. 15: The Danger of Arm's Length Acceptance

This is why I speak to them in parables, **because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear**, nor do they understand. Matthew 13:13

3. \_\_\_\_\_: and Take Your Seat at the Table

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### Digging Deeper into the Kingdom of God

This week's passages:

Monday – Luke 14:1-24

Tuesday – Luke 14:25-35

Wednesday – Matthew 5

Thursday – Matthew 6

Friday – Matthew 7

Weekend – Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. Each of these parables are related. They each are making a similar point and that is, that in Jesus, something has taken place that has reversed the fortunes of people. Jesus is reversing the way things are. Take special note of what the passage says about God, and his Kingdom. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. Read the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. Record or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. Reflect and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. Respond by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (*"Be doers of the word and not hearers only"* James 1:22).